

LEADING ARTICLES—August 7, 1931  
COMMENT ON WAGES AND KINDRED SUBJECTS  
"REAL 'RED MENACE'"  
HOOVER STANDS PAT  
THE SAN JOSE STRIKE

# THE SAN FRANCISCO BANK

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INCORPORATED FEBRUARY 10TH, 1868

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## LABOR DAY EDITION of the LABOR CLARION

The annual Labor Day Edition of the Labor Clarion will be issued on Friday, September 4. Great efforts are being made to make this edition a memorable one, marking not only the occasion which is celebrated generally throughout the country by the hosts of organized labor, but having a special significance because of the fact that the San Francisco Labor Council will stage a public jollification in connection with the burning of the mortgage on the Labor Temple.

Advertising copy should be in the hands of the printer at the earliest possible moment. The attention of our business friends is called to this in order that there may be no disappointments because of lack of sufficient time to prepare the advertising pages.

### Labor Council Directory

Labor Council meets every Friday at 8 p. m. at Labor Temple, Sixteenth and Capp streets. Secretary's office and headquarters, Room 205, Labor Temple. The Executive and Arbitration Committee meet every Monday at 7:30 p. m. Label Section meets first and third Wednesdays at 8 p. m. Headquarters' phone Market 0056. (Please notify Clarion of any change)

Alaska Fishermen—Meet Fridays during February, March, April and October, 49 Clay.  
Asphalt Workers—Meet 2nd and 4th Mondays at Labor Temple.  
Amalgamated Sheet Metal Workers No. 104—Meet Fridays, 224 Guerrero.  
Auto Mechanics No. 1305—Meet Wednesdays, 8 p. m., 108 Valencia.  
Auto & Carriage Painters No. 1073, 200 Guerrero.  
Baggage Messengers—Meet 2nd Monday, 60 Market. Sec., Robt. Berry, 1059 56th St., Oakland.  
Bakers No. 24—Meet 1st and 3rd Saturdays, at Labor Temple.  
Bakery Wagon Drivers—Meet 2nd and 4th Saturdays, 112 Valencia.  
Barbers No. 148—Meet 1st and 3rd Mondays, 112 Valencia.  
Bill Posters No. 44—Meet 4th Monday, Shakespear Hall, 15th and Mission.  
Blacksmiths and Helpers—Meet 1st and 3rd Tuesdays, Labor Temple.  
Bollermakers No. 6—Meet 2nd and 4th Mondays, Labor Temple.  
Bookbinders—Office, Room 804, 693 Mission. Meet 3rd Friday, Labor Temple.  
Bottlers No. 293—Meet 3rd Tues., Labor Temple.  
Boxmakers and Sawyers—Meet 1st and 3rd Tuesdays, Labor Temple.  
Brewery Drivers—Meet 3rd Tuesday, Labor Temple.  
Brewery Workmen No. 7—Meet 3rd Thursday, Labor Temple.  
Bridge and Structural Iron Workers No. 377—200 Guerrero.  
Carpenters No. 483—Meets Mondays, 112 Valencia.  
Cemetery Workers—Meets 1st and 3rd Saturdays, Labor Temple.  
Cigarmakers—Meet 1st and 3rd Thursdays, 143 Albin.  
Chauffeurs—Meet 2nd and 4th Thursdays at 112 Valencia.  
Cleaners, Dyers and Pressers No. 17960—Office, 710 Grant Building.

Commercial Telegraphers—420 Clunie Bldg.  
Capmakers No. 9—Jos. Shaw, 3749 Emerson st., Oakland, Calif.  
Cooks No. 44—Meet 1st Thursdays, 2:30 p. m.; 3rd Thursdays at 8:30 p. m.—1164 Market.  
Coopers No. 65—Meet 2nd and 4th Tuesdays at Labor Temple.  
Cracker Bakers No. 125—Meet 3rd Monday, Labor Temple.  
Cracker Packers' Auxiliary—Meet 1st and 3rd Tuesdays, Labor Temple.  
Dredgemen 45-C—268 Market.  
Elevator Constructors No. 8—Meet 1st and 3rd Fridays, 200 Guerrero.  
Electrical Workers No. 151—Meet 2nd and 4th Thursdays, 112 Valencia.  
Electrical Workers No. 6—Meet Wednesdays, 200 Guerrero.  
Electrical Workers No. 537, C. le Splicers.  
Egg Inspectors—Meet 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at Labor Temple.  
Federal Employees No. 1—Office, 746 Pacific Bldg. Meet 1st Tuesday, 414 Mason.  
Federation of Teachers No. 61—Meet 2nd Monday, Room 227, City Hall.  
Ferryboatmen's Union—Ferry Building.  
Garage Employees—Meet 2nd Tuesdays, at Labor Temple.  
Garment Cutters No. 45—Meet 2nd and 4th Fridays, Labor Temple.  
Garment Workers No. 131—Meet 1st Thursday at 515 p. m.; 3rd Thursday, 8 p. m., Labor Temple.  
Glove Workers—Meet 1st Tuesday, Labor Temple.  
Grocery Clerks—Meet 1st Thursday, Labor Temple.  
Hatters No. 23—Sec., Jonas Grace, 178 Flood Av.  
Hoisting Engineers No. 59—Meet Mondays, at 200 Guerrero.  
Ice Drivers—Sec., V. Hummel, 3532 Anza. Meet 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, Labor Temple.  
Janitors No. 9—Meet 1st and 3rd Thursdays, at Labor Temple.  
Ladies' Garment Workers No. 9—830 Market.  
Longshoremen's Association—Sec., Emil G. Stein, 85 Clay.  
Laundry Drivers—Meet 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, Labor Temple.  
Laundry Workers No. 26—Meet 1st and 3rd Mondays, Labor Temple.

Letter Carriers—Sec., Thomas P. Tierney, 635a Castro. Meets 1st Saturday, 414 Mason.  
Lithographers No. 17—Meet 2nd and 4th Thursday—373 Golden Gate avenue.  
Machinists No. 68—Meet Wednesdays, at Labor Temple.  
Mailers No. 18—Meet 3rd Sundays, Labor Temple. Secretary, A. F. O'Neill, 771 17th avenue.  
Marine Diesel Engineers No. 49—Ferry Building.  
Material Teamsters No. 216—Meet Wednesdays, 200 Guerrero.  
Masters, Mates and Pilots No. 40—Geo. M. Fouratt, Room 21, Ferry Bldg.  
Masters, Mates & Pilots No. 89—Bulkhead No. 7.  
Metal Polishers—Meet 1st and 3rd Thursdays, Labor Temple.  
Milk Wagon Drivers—Meet Wednesdays, at Labor Temple.  
Miscellaneous Employees No. 110—Meet 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 131 Eighth.  
Molders No. 164—Meet Tuesdays, Labor Temple.  
Molders' Auxiliary—Meet 1st Friday.  
Moving Picture Operators—Meet 2nd and 4th Thursdays, 230 Jones.  
Municipal Cribbers No. 534—200 Guerrero.  
Musicians No. 6—Meet 2nd Thursday; Executive Board, Tuesday, 230 Jones.  
Office Employees—Meet 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, Labor Temple.  
Ornamental Plasterers No. 460—Meet 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 200 Guerrero.  
Painters No. 19—Meet Mondays, 200 Guerrero.  
Patternmakers—Meet 2nd and 4th Fridays, Labor Temple.  
Paste Makers No. 10567—Meet last Saturday of month, 441 Broadway.  
Photo Engravers—Meet 1st Friday, 150 Golden Gate avenue.  
Plumbers No. 442—200 Guerrero.  
Post Office Clerks—Meet 4th Thursday, at Labor Temple.  
Post Office Laborers—Sec., W. T. Colbert, 278 Lexington.  
Printing Pressmen—Office, 331 Stevenson. Meets 2nd Monday, Labor Temple.  
Professional Embalmers—Sec., Geo. Monahan, 765 Page.  
Retail Shoe Salesmen No. 410—Meet 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 273 Golden Gate Avenue.  
Retail Clerks No. 432, 150 Golden Gate Ave.  
Retail Delivery Drivers—Meet 2nd and 4th Thursdays, Labor Temple.

Sailors' Union of the Pacific—Meets Mondays 59 Clay.  
Sailmakers—Sec., Horace Kelly, 2558 29th Ave. Meet 1st Thursday, Labor Temple.  
Shipyard Laborers—Meet 1st Friday, Labor Temple.  
Stationary Engineers No. 64—Meet 1st and 3rd Tuesdays, 200 Guerrero.  
Stationary Firemen—Meet 1st Tuesdays, at Labor Temple.  
Steam Fitters No. 590—Meet 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, Labor Temple.  
Steam Shovel Men No. 45—Meet 1st Saturday 268 Market.  
Stereotypers and Electrotypers—Meet 3rd Sunday, Labor Temple.  
Stove Mounters No. 61—Sec., Manuel De Salles. R. F. D. 7, Niles, Calif.  
Stove Mounters No. 62—J. J. Kerlin, 1534 29th Ave., Oakland, Calif.  
Street Carmen, Division 518—Meet 2nd and 4th Thursdays, Labor Temple.  
Tailors No. 80—Office, Room 411, 163 Sutter.  
Teamsters No. 85—Meet Thursdays, 536 Bryant.  
Technical Engineers No. 11—John Coughlan, 79 Lennox Way.  
Theatrical Stage Employees—Meet 1st and 3rd Tuesdays, 230 Jones.  
Theatrical Wardrobe Attendants—Sec., Norah Alden, 238 9th.  
Trackmen—Meet 4th Tuesday, Labor Temple.  
Trade Union Promotional League (Label Section)—Meets 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, Labor Temple. Market 7560.  
Tunnel and Aqueduct Workers—P. O. Box 934. Livermore, Calif.  
Typographical No. 21—Office, 16 First St. Meet 3rd Sunday, Labor Temple.  
United Laborers No. 1—Meet Tuesdays, at 200 Guerrero.  
Upholsterers No. 28—Meet 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, Labor Temple.  
Watchmen No. 15689—Sec., E. Counihan, 166 Boworth.  
Waiters No. 30—Meet Wednesdays, 3 p. m., 1256 Market.  
Waitresses No. 48—Meet 2nd Wednesday at 8 p. m., 4th Wednesday at 3 p. m., at 1171 Market.  
Water Workers—Sec., Thomas Dowd, 214 27th St. Meet 1st and 3rd Mondays, Labor Temple.  
Web Pressmen—Meet 4th Sunday, Labor Temple.  
Window Cleaners No. 44—1075 Mission.

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question . .

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# LABOR CLARION

The Official Journal of the San Francisco Labor Council

VOL. XXX

SAN FRANCISCO, FRIDAY, AUGUST 7, 1931

No. 27

## COMMENT ON WAGES AND KINDRED SUBJECTS

Evidently the fight to maintain wages in accord with the announced policy of President Hoover, approved by heads of corporations and civic and industrial bodies, as well as the labor unions, is reaching a crucial stage. A Wall Street dispatch seems to hint that something startling is contemplated. "As dividend reductions continue," it says, "Wall Street's discussion of wage cuts become louder. Nearly every day brings reports of salary or wage cutting, either openly and straight out or covertly through enforced holidays and lengthening of hours." It is stated that Wall Street still believes that the United States Steel Corporation will be forced to reduce wages after its proposed "salary" cuts go into effect, provided there is no upturn in business.

\* \* \* \*

The dispatch further intimates that the demand of the railroads for increased rates was prompted by a desire to avoid strikes which would follow wage reductions. It is claimed that the railroads are too weak financially to stand the strain of industrial strife, and would have reason to hope for acceptance of wage reductions by the railroad workers if the demand for higher freight rates were denied. In other words, the demand for higher freight rates is a thinly veiled attempt to reduce wages.

\* \* \* \*

Involved calculations are given to prove that the wage earner on the railroads is the recipient of all the benefits accruing from modern methods of railroading, and that the poor stockholder is worse off than he was fifteen years ago. These calculations were made by Wall Street, "whose interests are naturally on the side of capital."

\* \* \* \*

Before these plans are carried much farther it might be well for capitalists who contemplate wage cutting to consider the present temper of the people—not alone the wage earner, but business men and those who rely on the buying power of the wage earner. At present they are in no mood for radical action on the part of the industrial lords, any more than they will look with favor on the equally revolutionary methods of communists. Wage cutting will be considered playing into the hands of those who would consider the time opportune to attempt a trial of their destructive policies.

\* \* \* \*

The British Labor government's bill providing for a continuation of the present seven and one-half hour day at existing rates of pay in coal mining, without application of the "spread-over" system, which the employers have been trying to enforce, recently passed the House of Commons without a division. The peace of the mining industry now seems to be assured for a year at least, and the attempt of the mine owners to reduce wages by a scheme of shifting working hours has been frustrated. It may be said for the British Labor government that it at least attempts to do something practical for the workers instead of talking about the impossibility of "bringing back prosperity by legislation."

\* \* \* \*

Officials of the United Mine Workers of America lay the blame for the present distress, suffering and chaos in the bituminous coal fields of the East directly on the operators, and declare that joint wage agreements are the only hope of

restoring economic order and prosperity. They contend that since the bituminous operators began their drive against organized labor a few years ago the coal markets of the country have been a "ruinous uneconomic battleground." The business individualism of the operators has resulted in price cuts and wage cuts which have brought profitless production to many operators and suffering to the miners.

\* \* \* \*

President Hoover has been requested by the American Paper and Pulp Association to halt negotiations for the sale of national forest timber in Alaska for conversion into news print paper. The request recites that "to thrust unwanted production upon over-expanded industry struggling with a diminished demand and vanishing profits would make a bad unemployment situation worse and further depreciate a capital investment of over \$800,000,000." It is likely that there is merit in the request, although the Alaskans may demur against restriction of their prospective activities. A similar plea on behalf of America's unemployed millions should meet the absurd demands of those who want to open the doors to the hordes of Asia in an attempt to enlist the good will of China and Japan in the interest of trade. "A bad unemployment situation" would not be bettered by removing restrictions on Asiatics.

\* \* \* \*

Wallace Alexander, former president of the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, is at the head of the agitation for removal of restrictions on Japanese immigration and placing the Chinese and Japanese under the quota law. "Under the quota basis," he says, "both China and Japan would be allotted about 100 immigrants each." No one, of course, believes such figures would represent the number who would find their way to these shores were the law amended. And if the exclusion laws are to be amended would it not be better to hear the suggestions of men who are interested in the welfare of American labor rather than one whose interests suggest the possibility of his being swayed by a desire for cheaper labor on Hawaiian plantations, trans-Pacific steamships and other activities?

\* \* \* \*

Following the publicity given the "lawyer's union" in connection with the award of a jail sentence for non-payment of dues, the "doctors' union" is now in the limelight. It appears that

if one of the medical fraternity becomes delinquent to the County Medical Society his name is barred from the list published in the telephone book. "A prominent member" of the society is quoted as saying: "Supposing you find in the classified pages of your telephone directory a list of physicians grouped under the emblem of the County Medical Society. At least that gives you a list of men who you know are identified with 'organized medicine'—you have something to tie to, a handle to grasp in your distress." Some day we may see "organized medicine" and "organized law" co-operating with organized labor and seeking admission to the Labor Council!

\* \* \* \*

"The backbone of the strike is believed to have been broken" with the arrest of "alien agitators" and the prospect of a federal investigation with a view to deportations. This is the news from San Jose, where the canneries are reported to be running with labor recruited to take the places of those who refused to accept the wage cut. If the same zeal were displayed in securing a decent wage for the cannery workers as has been shown in hounding the "agitators" there would be little need for federal investigations and threatened deportations. Such wage conditions are a menace to labor throughout the district and a disgrace to the state. Imagine men and women receiving the munificent sum of 30 cents an hour in this age!

\* \* \* \*

The erudite editor of the San Jose "Union Gazette" paints a gloomy picture of the effects of the business depression, especially in the oil industry, in Kern County, where he has been sojourning. "The greed of the oil companies," he says, "with the nation's leading statesmen making their piles from it, is the reason of the darkened cities of Kern County, once prosperous through oil," and explains why Kern County has contributed tens of thousands to the ranks of the unemployed. He suggests that Californians should buy only California-produced gasoline and oil. "To see the major oil companies' service stations doing business in Kern County, trying to sell to the people they have deliberately ruined creates in me a feeling a public newspaper dare not express," he concludes.

\* \* \* \*

In his Indianapolis speech President Hoover used the following language: "The net results of governmental doles are to lower wages toward the bare existence level and to endow the slacker." Professor John Dewey of the People's Lobby takes exception to this, and in a letter to the chief executive, among other things, he said: "Nearly every large fortune in America is chiefly due to some 'dole' in the form of special privilege granted by government."

\* \* \* \*

Much criticism of Judge John Barton Payne, chairman of the National Red Cross, has been indulged in because of his refusal to use Red Cross funds for the relief of distress in the Pennsylvania coal fields. He says the distress is "due to economic conditions," and does not come within the scope of the Red Cross. Distress and suffering are the same, whether due to economic conditions or "an act of God." But it is possible that the activities of the Red Cross are really limited to the latter by its charter.

### SHORTER DAY AND WEEK

Secretary of Labor Doak has come out flatly in favor of the six-hour day and five-day week.

"Before I became Secretary of Labor I advocated a six-hour day and a five-day week for industry and I am still of that opinion," Secretary Doak said.

"Since we adopted a five-and-a-half-day week in the government departments we have been doing just as well in the Department of Labor. The work is done just as efficiently and it hasn't cost the government one cent additional. I think we would operate just as efficiently with a five-day week."



## "REAL 'RED MENACE'"

Not even the labor press has given a clearer presentation of the attitude of organized labor toward the revolutionary activities of the radical elements in this country and the dangers to established conditions than that expressed by Chester Rowell in the San Francisco "Chronicle" of August 1. With the radicals "boring from within" and the employers attempting a crushing movement from without, organized labor confronts the situation with a full knowledge of the perils to be encountered. It is to be hoped that the words of Mr. Rowell will bear fruit in a realization by capital that it is playing into the hands of the "red menace." Mr. Rowell's comment follows in part:

"The Western world, in the Bolshevik conception, is both 'capitalistic' and 'imperialistic.' Their chief objection to it is its capitalism, but its most immediately vulnerable point is its imperialism. They are therefore attacking it first on that side. The British Empire, they say, is the center of that system as well as the principal carrier of the world's capitalist trade. So whenever there is trouble anywhere in Asia, especially to the British scheme of things, they leap to that trouble to make it worse. They compete also in those regions as destructively as possible with British trade. If they can weaken the Western system, on this imperialistic side, and can spread communism in the dissatisfied regions of Asia, that will hasten the day, they think, when revolution against the business (not the governments) of Western Europe will follow. After Asia, Africa and Europe are following, they say, they will not have to start any conspiracies to make America go Bolshevik too. We will do that ourselves.

### "Boring From Within"

"The one political movement in America which really interests them is not in governmental but in labor politics. It is the 'boring from within' effort of the radical faction in the American Federation of Labor to change that organization from a business to a revolutionary body. They sought, through that faction, to undermine Gompers, and now they are using the same tactics on his successor. The tragic part of it is that their chief aids in this plot are precisely the ghost chasers themselves and their union-busting auxiliaries.

### Business and Collective Bargaining

"American business ought to welcome, recognize and co-operate with the American Federation of Labor, the one great labor organization in the world which believes in business and wants its relation to employers to be a business one, conducted on business principles. The Federation unions do not want to own the business, nor to run it. They want the employer to take that responsibility, and especially its risks. But with that business they want to make the best deal they can, by collective bargaining, for an increasing share in the joint product.

### Business Should Pay Price

"Naturally, the labor unions will ask for more than the employer wants to give. So do his competitors seek more of the business than he wants them to get. That is the way business is done. But nobody proposes to abolish competition merely because he has to stand up for his end of it. It is even more foolish to try to non-unionize labor merely because unions may ask too much. In the long run, doubtless, they will get more than labor ever got before, some of it at the expense of profit. Business should pay that price, too. For the alternative is revolutionary unions which do not believe in business and seek, not higher wages, but the abolition of the wage system.

### Communism's Chief Enemy

"In a world where the Bolshevik menace is real we should co-operate with other nations in meeting it where its pressing attack is—which is all

outside of America. As to its only serious American feature, we should support, recognize and do our business with the labor organization which the communists themselves regard as their chief enemy—the American Federation of Labor and its constituent unions. The only really serious Bolshevik menace in America is the anti-union group among its employers."

## BUILDING TRADES HARD HIT

According to reports received by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor from 342 identical cities having a population of 25,000 or over there was a decrease of 19.5 per cent in the estimated cost of buildings for which permits were issued during May, 1931, as compared with the estimated cost of the buildings for which permits were issued during April, 1931. There was a decrease of 18 per cent in the estimated cost of new residential buildings, and a decrease of 20.9 per cent in the estimated cost of new non-residential buildings, comparing permits issued during these two periods. The estimated cost of total building operations for which permits were issued during May, 1931, was \$130,398,526. New buildings for which permits were issued during the month of May, 1931, were planned to house 11,371 families. This is a decrease of 20 per cent in the number of family dwelling units as compared with the month of April, 1931.

Comparing permits issued in 295 identical cities in May, 1931, and May, 1930, there was a decrease of 27.6 per cent in total construction, a decrease of 18.3 per cent in the estimated cost of new residential buildings, and a decrease of 30.2 per cent in the estimated cost of new non-residential buildings. The number of family dwelling units provided decreased 12.5 per cent, comparing May, 1931, permits with May, 1930, permits.

## THE CALAMITY OF PROSPERITY

John P. Frey, secretary-treasurer of the Metal Trades Department, A. F. of L., has gathered the facts showing our rapid increase in production of wealth and its inequitable distribution in an article in the "American Federationist" for July. The Federal Reserve system constitutes 70 per cent of the nation's banking. In 1922 the capital of its member banks was \$1,940,000,000; their surplus was \$1,625,000,000; their undivided profits, \$797,000,000; net addition to profits, \$299,000,000. In 1929, their capital was \$2,757,000,000; their surplus \$2,864,000,000; their undivided profits were \$1,086,000,000; net addition to profits, \$556,000,000.

In 1923 the total value of products coming from our manufacturing industries was \$60,529,000,000, which increased to \$69,417,000,000 in 1929.

In 1923 wages paid workers in manufacturing industries were \$11,007,000,000; in 1929, \$11,421,000,000.

In 1922 dividends paid by corporations amounted to \$930,648,000; in 1929, \$3,478,000,000.

In 1922 interest paid to bondholders was \$2,469,000,000; in 1929, \$7,588,000,000.

Industries sell at home over 90 per cent of their output. The failure of wages to increase proportionately with products explains our economic unbalance.

Between 1922 and 1929 real wages increased 13 per cent; profits to industrialists increased 76 per cent; dividends on rails and industrials increased 256 per cent.

Ideals are like stars; you will not succeed in touching them with your hands, but like the seafaring man on the desert of our waters, you choose them as your guides, and, following them, you reach your destiny.—Carl Schurz.

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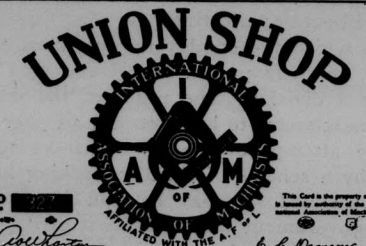
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**HOOVER STANDS PAT**

—BY CHESTER M. WRIGHT—

Wages—the average man's living—have become such an issue as never before in this or any other country.

And the relative power of government and industry is due for a test.

President Hoover, delivering a declaration almost as terse as Perry's "Don't give up the ship," put the White House once more on record within thirty minutes after the United States Steel Corporation decision on wages had been announced.

Hoover's declaration, obviously more inspired by the faux pas of Secretary of Commerce Lamont than the Steel magnates, was to the point—a cold blast under the Lamont chair and a flag for the other members of the administration, particularly Secretary of Labor Doak. Hoover said:

"No member of the administration has expressed the view or holds the view that the policy of the administration in advocating the maintenance of wages should be changed. It has not been changed."

**Lamont Committed Blunder**

That seems to tell Secretary Lamont an important fact, for the secretary had been inept enough to say that some corporations now find themselves "without reserves" and faced with the prospect of closing down or "seeking temporary wage reductions," in which cases, he said, the government could not interfere. Lamont's remarks were in a letter to Representative Condon of Rhode Island in reply to a letter from Condon to President Hoover.

Secretary Doak stated to newspaper men that the administration's policy had not been changed. He was as emphatic as President Hoover.

Secretary Lamont had nothing to say about the millions of wage earners who have "no reserves" and who face a winter of starvation. The fact is he went as far as he well could go in conceding to employers that what he called "temporary wage reductions" were excusable in certain cases. He let down the bars and the hasty effort to deny his attempt to placate manufacturers doesn't wipe out what he said, though it may put a damper on anything further along that line.

**"Battle of the Marne" for Wages**

Meanwhile in three other great industries—railroads, steel and coal—the week presented a critical period.

Altogether the week has brought such a tension over wages in enormous bulk as no other single week has seen and wages have emerged with more of triumph than was generally expected. In a sense it was a case of Wages at the Marne and the wage-cutters were driven back in defeat—at least for the week. Without the terrific battle that has been waged to maintain wages, without the constant agitation that has aroused the nation to a new understanding of the meaning of wages, there could have been no such outcome.

**THIRD WINTER OF UNEMPLOYMENT**

"The third winter of unemployment is approaching. Those charged with surveying the condition agree that the situation will be much more serious than during the two previous winters," says an American Federation of Labor News Letter.

"It is not expected that there will be any diminution of the 6,000,000 now estimated to be barred from work. Indeed, the indications point to an increase above that number.

"Welfare workers state that during the first four months of 1931 relieving the unemployed cost about 75 per cent of the total for 1930. It is said that this increase does not necessarily indicate an increase in the number of out-of-works during that period. It means that workers suffering contin-

ued unemployment or having intermittent work had spent their savings in order to buy a living for their families and finally reached the poverty status and became the unwilling recipients of charity relief.

"On the charity side the situation is not cheerful. Relief organizations admit that large numbers of persons of moderate means who normally support community chests and similar funds will be unable to contribute as liberally this year as formerly. It has been quite customary for large employers to pledge large sums to charity organizations and then in reality compel their employees to pay a large portion of the pledge although the compulsion was masked under the guise of voluntary contributions. But with so many employees on reduced earnings resulting from part-time work and other forms of wage reductions the employers will be unable to tap this source of charity contributions the coming winter.

"Every sign indicates that the bulk of next winter's necessarily immense fund to provide at least 6,000,000 unemployed workers and their families with the means of life and health must come from public funds.

"Reliable statistics show that in 1929 about 60 per cent of the cost of direct family relief in 100 representative cities was paid out of public funds. In 1930, with the total relief cost greatly increased, public funds paid 72 per cent.

"During the coming winter the total cost of providing the unemployed with the requisite amount of food, clothing, shelter and schooling for children of school age will exceed the cost during either of the two preceding winters. Private charity organizations like the community chest are making arrangements for a federated drive in October for \$82,000,000 for winter relief work. The drive for private charity funds has the official backing of the President's Emergency Committee for Employment. But the major reliance must be on public funds.

"Municipal and county public funds are under the control of bodies responsible to the voters made up largely of working people. The workers through their trade unions and other organizations should be able in an organized way to see to it that the only limit on private charity and the appropriation of public funds for relief of the jobless shall be the provision of a decent living standard for all unemployed workers and their family dependents. Anything less will be a discredit to American institutions."

**PEDESTRIAN HAS RIGHT OF WAY**

Definition of rights between pedestrians and motor vehicles, heretofore confined to local regulations, has been added to the state law through amendment of the vehicle act, according to the legal department of the California State Automobile Association. The new section provides that a driver must yield the right of way to a pedestrian crossing within any marked crosswalk or at the end of a block whether there are markings or not. Vehicles are prohibited from overtaking and passing another which has been stopped at a marked crosswalk in compliance with this law. When a pedestrian crosses a roadway at a point other than within a marked or unmarked crosswalk he shall yield the right of way to vehicles. The motorist must continue to use due care for the safety of the pedestrian, who must also use care for his own safety. Pedestrians are also required to obey traffic signals.

**ALAMEDA BUILDING TRADES**

At the meeting of the Alameda County Building Trades Council held on July 28 J. H. Quinn was elected president, Charles Conrad vice-president, N. Jones sergeant-at-arms and Charles R. Gurney secretary-treasurer and business agent. Gurney has held the office of secretary-treasurer for ten years.

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## RUN O' THE HOOK

(This department is conducted by C. M. Baker, president of San Francisco Typographical Union No. 21)

Notification has been received from International headquarters that special election to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Theodore Perry, first vice-president, will be held on October 28. Nominations made by local unions must be in the hands of the International secretary-treasurer at Indianapolis on or before September 28 in order that the nominees' names may appear upon the official ballot.

The New York Progressive Club has endorsed the candidacy of Francis Barrett. Telegrams from well-known members of New York union have been sent out advocating the nomination and election of Mr. Barrett to the office of first vice-president.

On Sunday, August 2, one important eastern union honored the writer of these notes by nominating him for the vacancy existing in the Executive Council. The action was taken without the writer's knowledge, and coincidentally came on his birthday and notification of the action sent by telegraph.

The Hughes Printing Company is now in its new location at 1743 Sacramento street.

C. R. Pitones has embarked in the business world, having established the Advertising, Printing and Specialty Company at 829 Howard street.

"Bert" Allyn this week returned to work on the "Examiner," following a five-week vacation. Mr. Allyn spent the time in and about San Francisco.

From the Los Angeles "Citizen" it was learned that Francis Drake, a member of No. 174 was recently unanimously elected as chairman of the Los Angeles Police Commission. Mr. Drake is an appointee of Mayor Porter.

Roy Donovan of the "Examiner" chapel is back after a month's vacation spent in the Pacific Northwest.

Miss Josephine Caminata of the "Examiner" chapel has just returned from a protracted vacation.

Miss Ethel Neece is at present vacationing. Miss Neece is also a member of the "Examiner" chapel.

E. M. (Ed) Palmer of the "Examiner" has returned to work after a "siege" with the flu.

T. S. (Tom) Black has a sub on T. M. A. C. (till month after convention). The duration of Tom's stay in the East is entirely dependent on the weather prevailing in that section of the country, for everyone knows how Mr. Black "loves hot weather."

The following item appeared in the last issue of the "Sacramento Valley Union Labor Bulletin": "At the meeting held in the Labor Temple Monday evening, July 27, the California State Textbook Defense League was formed. This league is composed of members of all branches of the trades employed in the State Printing Office, both organized and unorganized. This is to be a permanent organization and the ultimate purpose for which this league was formed was to combat the efforts of the State Board of Education to award contracts to printing firms outside the State of California for the printing of text books which rightfully should be printed in the State Printing Office. It is also the aim of this league to help obtain the highest standard of books for the future education of the children of this state. The following members were elected as officers: J. P. Olwell (printers), president; D. M. Higgins (office), secretary; Ed Shirley (bookbinders), treasurer. A finance committee of five members was elected as follows: T. J. O'Brien (printers), William Cole (pressmen), R. L. Ennis (bookbinders), D. M. Higgins (office), and Floyd Morris (unorganized).

This committee will take care of all financial transactions that come before the league.

The usual notes of the "News" will be missing for several weeks as L. L. Heagney, who weekly chronicled happenings in the "News" chapel, was the first from the coast to begin the trek to Boston. Mr. and Mrs. Heagney left via automobile last week. Heagney, in an interview just before departure, stated that if the gasoline scrip book presented to him by the "News" chapel "held out" he expected to arrive in Boston early in September.

The International Stereotypers and Electrotypers' Union last week closed its convention in Toronto, Canada. One of the last acts of the convention was the defeat of a proposal to establish old age pensions. The proposal was defeated by a large majority. The Stereotypers and Electrotypers' convention also "wrestled" with a number of proposals relating to five-day week.

Dispatches from the East state that the old Pittsburgh "Dispatch" is to be re-established as a morning and evening publication. Machinery is to be shipped from New York and the paper published from the former "Dispatch" building. The first issue is announced for early in September.

The winners in the Label Contest for July follow: D. C. Hanna, first; Sam Bowman, second; A. Odegaard, third.

The special referendum vote in Oakland for the 2 per cent assessment to carry on the campaign against the Alameda "Times-Star" carried by 157 for to 47 against.

### Call-Bulletins—By "Hoot."

The slipboard is crowded to capacity—both sides of it, regulars and subs—as will be seen by the following regulars who are taking their annual outing:

"Deacon" Folger, who left last week to be on hand when the deer (he told us to be sure to spell it with two "e's") season opened. He promised us, as well as all his friends, the choice part of the animal.

Chairman Staples traveled to Tracy, where he said he knew a spot where the deer were plentiful.

Charlie Marshall got tired of staying 'round home. He is down in Old Mexico.

Lloyd Newton, machinist, has gone to Healdsburg, where the air is plentiful and fresh, graphite not having found its way there—yet.

Benny Dwyer, irrepressible Benny, ran out of advice for American statesmen, and has taken himself off to—?

"Berserk" Hedges took time off to consult authorities on whether he has just cause for a duel.

Just to change the subject, Luke Alvord informs us that some other fellow is spending a short vacation at his expense. Luke was held up the other night, the knight of the road taking several dollars and leaving Luke with a nasty cut on the chin from brass knuckles.

The boys who use the roller skates are in their glory this week, as the floor in the composing room received a fresh coat of oil.

Pat Frayne, sporting editor, returned from his vacation and was received with open arms and cheers by several of the boys. Needless to say, the attendance at ball games, fights and other sports, where passes are used, increased.

Lloyd Evans, who was here some time ago, blew into the office from Nebraska.

Here's a tip to the Scotch: One of the boys, wishing to go on a fishing trip and being used to having passes for the ball games, asked several of the boys for a loan of their fishing permits. However, the physical proportions of the would-be fisherman are such that none of the boys approached came near filling the bill. He was referred to the editorial room.

Henry (Red) Bender, having been married some six months or so, has taken Bill Stockfleth, married two weeks, but twice as old, under his

wing and spends several minutes each morning giving Bill some "old-time" advice.

Having received no word from Ross Wilson, who left on an endurance flight last week for Los Angeles, we conclude that he must have been compelled to make a forced landing in the wilds between San Jose and Santa Cruz.

George Bigler, whose duty it is to see that the boys put the commas in the proper place, divide the words at the proper letter and other items connected with the "brainery," has a "tf" slip on the board. George informs us that this is the seventh consecutive (ask him what that means) year that he has laid off during the month of August. He has had the "gas" buggy overhauled and will spend his time taking short trips and getting acquainted with nature.

### STEREOTYPERS' CONVENTION

"Shorter hours and shorter weeks of work" was the keynote of the session of the International Stereotypers and Electrotypers' Union of North America in session for their thirtieth annual convention at Toronto last week. This slogan was echoed by many speakers, among them W. R. Lucas, president of the Toronto Typographical Union, and Matthew Woll, vice-president of the American Federation of Labor.

Passing of the age of "secrets of the trade" was marked by the striking out of the general laws of the provision for a \$50 fine for revealing secrets of mixing paste, metals, wax, or the solutions of compounds.

Priority was a subject which came in for a hot discussion, and was handed over to the laws committee for further discussion and a complete report.

### IT LOOKED BAD FOR THE EDITOR

Editor S. S. White of the Bakersfield "Union Labor Journal" had a bad hour or so lately, without doubt. Two young men stole the license plates off Bro. White's auto, placed them on another car, and proceeded to hold up a filling station. Naturally, the numbers were traced and found to belong to the editor of a labor paper, who may have a hard enough time to get by, but not quite reduced to doing the highwayman act on the side. As soon as the loss of the plates was discovered Bro. White got busy, with the result that the two young men were soon trapped for the crime. Rather a close call for Editor White, and lucky he was in his own home town.—Los Angeles "Citizen."

### LOCAL TAXING POWER UPHELD

Land and buildings valued at millions of dollars, claimed to be exempt from ordinary property taxes, will be kept on local assessment rolls under a ruling of the State Board of Equalization announced in Sacramento by John C. Corbett, San Francisco, member of the board from the First district. Following a decision by the state Supreme Court last June, requiring Los Angeles County to return to Morgan Adams, Inc., taxes collected on a building leased to the Southern California Telephone Company, a number of public utilities filed reports this year with the state equalization board asking that property rented by them be entirely relieved from local taxation. These claims were protested by county assessors, who urged the board to declare that the landlord's interest in the leased property could still be taxed locally, notwithstanding the Morgan Adams case. To hold otherwise, the assessors said, would result in large revenue losses to cities and counties throughout the state.

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## MAILER NOTES

By LEROY C. SMITH

From a careful reading of Judge Baltzell's decision in dismissing the ancillary bill of complaint and assessing the costs on the complainants, it would seem the officers of the M. T. D. U. lacked both vision and foresight in going into a federal court in an attempt to settle their complaints against the I. T. U. For years officers of the M. T. D. U. and followers have preached that an M. T. D. U. was essential to the mailer welfare. And aside from the "relief" or so-called defense fund of \$100,000, and other funds (yet to be accounted for, as per law, in the "Journal"), the court, in deciding against complainants, says, in part: "Since the organization of the M. T. D. U. there were chartered forty-six mailer unions which went out of existence because of non-payment of dues, or lack of interest, or because there did not remain a sufficient membership to constitute a union." What assistance, if any, financial or otherwise, did these forty-six locals receive from the M. T. D. U. officers? If these officials could give no aid or support to those who, after a brief struggle for existence, were forced, for one reason or another, to "give up the ghost," then how would it be possible, particularly at this time, with but \$8.97 remaining in the \$100,000 defense or "relief" fund, to afford aid or support to locals at present affiliated with the M. T. D. U.? It is questionable whether they would be given even moral support.

Once upon a time, it is said, the M. T. D. U. was a "gold mine"—for its officers and a "favored few." But gone forever, probably, are the halcyon days. Its "youth" and "wealth" have been wasted—and, judging from a reading of the court's dismissal of the ancillary bill of complaint, now totters to a fall under the burden of lawyers' fees and expensive court litigation. It has certainly fallen upon evil days when its officers are now, figuratively, "passing the hat" or attempting to borrow money from locals to continue court litigation against the I. T. U.

The officers of the M. T. D. U. or their representatives might try the "loan plan" on the Los Angeles and Kansas City locals. Advices at hand state that recently Mr. McArdle visited Pittsburgh local and requested them to levy an assessment to help pay the lawyers. This they refused to do. More power to them. From financial report of the secretary-treasurer, M. T. D. U., May, 1931: Receipts, \$607.50; expenditures, \$210.82; leaving a balance of \$396.68. Balance on hand, \$2334.29. Judging by above figures, we wonder just how many years it would require to pay back the probable loans the officers are asking of locals to continue court litigation? In case the court decision again was against the said officials, what then? Expenses: John White, services, Indianapolis, Ind., \$22; Munroe Roberts, conferring with attorneys in Indianapolis, Ind., \$50.24; last, but not least, John McArdle, expenses attending convention of A. N. P. A., \$97. It is said the officers draw no salaries—work for nothing. Though John White of Indianapolis, Ind., bitterly opposed the election of McArdle and Roberts, he is now among those on the payroll of the M. T. D. U. Judging by past expenditures of M. T. D. U. officers, it is not a large amount. But for the "services" and "expenses" of these gentlemen, which total \$169.24, with total monthly receipts approximately \$600 per month, we wonder what benefit the working mailers of the M. T. D. U. derived from this expenditure of \$169.24!

Make every day "Label Day." Buy union-made goods and give employment to union men and women.

## EMPLOYERS PROTEST WAGE CUTS

From "Industrial and Labour Information," issued by the International Labour Office of the League of Nations, it is learned that the reduction recently made in the salaries of Polish civil servants has given rise to several protests on the part of Polish employers, who believe that an appreciable contraction of the home market will result from this step.

The president of the Polish National Federation of Industries, Mines, Commerce and Finance, Mr. Wierzbicki, addressing the board of directors of the Federation on the subject of the economic depression, made the following observation:

"One obvious remedy would be a general reduction of wages. Such a step might be justified by the same arguments which have been used by parliament and the government to justify the reduction of salaries of civil servants, but industry has no desire to move in the direction of general wage reduction."

In a statement issued to the press the Federation, after quoting the above passage, emphasizes that it has never been in favor of general wage reductions, and that such reductions as have taken place in industrial undertakings are purely local measures.

The same awareness of the dangers inherent in wage reduction appears in the following passage recently published in the organ of the national employers' organizations:

"It is unfortunate that such feeble rays of hope as appeared on the economic horizon have been obscured by a cloud in the form of a considerable reduction in the salaries of state and municipal officials, which took effect on May 1. The possibility of this step had been foreseen for some time, but there was no idea that it would be carried out so suddenly. From the economic point of view the reduction of salaries by 15 per cent, or to be more precise the withdrawal of the bonus of 15 per cent, is partly offset by the fall in the cost of living which has taken place during recent months. Nevertheless, the saving of several millions effected by the treasury undoubtedly means a loss to the national economic system through the contraction of the home market. In the present circumstances this is a very unpleasant prospect, especially for industry."

## SOVIET'S CHANGE OF PLANS

"Stalin, regarded by many as the soviet enigma, announces another 'new economic policy'." says an I. L. N. S. writer.

"A new credit system must be established, he says. Wages henceforth are to be paid on the basis of work done—piece work and higher rates for those that work fastest or best. Big state trusts are to be broken up into small units under individual management. Each industry must show a profit and 'justify itself.' The Kulak, not so long ago fodder for firing squads, gets a new place in the red sun. So do the members of the old intelligentsia.

"If we may take these things at face value they mean the abandonment of the heart of the communist philosophy. The profit system, in large measure, returns to Russia. The red leaders deny that they have compromised with capitalism, but their denials cannot be taken at face value, for they must appease their converts. As a matter of fact, we can take nothing out of Russia at face value. We can only wait for results.

"But it is, nevertheless, fairly certain that the communist program of collectivism has hit many hard bumps and things are not going as well as might be. Stalin's declaration of a return to certain basic manifestations of non-communist societies shows the same old dictatorship at work and perhaps that is, for us, the paramount fact of the moment. For the rest, it is best to wait and see. Anyhow, the Russian bear, reputed to 'walk like a

man,' proceeds toward whatever may be its destiny along a zigzag course."

But the fact remains, as one editorial writer points out, that the Soviet is still in control, and while capitalistic methods are gradually being introduced, individualism is not yet in the saddle, or likely to be.

## "ORGANIZED REST PERIODS"

Ernest Bevin, general secretary of the British Transport and General Workers' Union, one of the most powerful of British labor organizations, recently proposed a system of "organized rest periods" as one factor in a cure for unemployment. "I cannot see the present working population, under the present rapid methods of production, being employed all the time," said Mr. Bevin. "And I know that a mixture of work and pleasure, properly organized, is much better for the state than the present situation of arduous work alternating with the starvation of the worker and his family." Mr. Bevin would establish "a national maintenance pool" as part of the economic system, and out of this pooled fund provide for organized rest. It sounds startling—but it is in practice right now on a fairly wide scale. An army of school teachers and college professors in the United States are paid by the year, but have from two to three months' rest out of the twelve—and their wages go on. A considerable number of clergymen have a similar arrangement. This is not to imply that teachers and preachers are overpaid—the opposite would come nearer being true—but it does show that Mr. Bevin's suggestion is not so wild as it seems. More people than ever before are thinking—or trying to—about unemployment and the way to get rid of it. Some of the suggestions are fantastic—which is a good sign, for it shows that people are casting about in all directions, as they should. Before long, some country will take William Hunter's maxim to heart—"Don't think, experiment!" and then we shall get some real information. Meanwhile, the notion of "organized rest," which means a shorter working year, without reduction in wages, is worth filing away for reference.—"Labor."

## RIGHTS OF THE HANDICAPPED

Fifty per cent of America's largest employers do not hire in any capacity persons handicapped mentally or physically, the White House Conference on Child Health and Protection says. There are approximately 8,000,000 handicapped young men and women. Apparently a very large proportion of this great army is denied employment, under present conditions.

Discrimination against the handicapped in the matter of employment was disclosed by a questionnaire sent to 600 of the largest employers by the White House Conference. Despite the large number who will not employ the handicapped, 25 per cent make no discrimination whatever, which is much to their credit.

It is the belief of the White House Conference that the public must come to appreciate the fact that the handicapped child not only has an inalienable right to an opportunity to develop the maximum of his capacity, but that it is the special duty of society to provide him with that opportunity. This is a sound view, meriting the support of every American.

## UNION LABOR NIGHT AT STADIUM

Fifty-two hundred persons attended the celebration of "Union Labor Night" at the Seals' Stadium on July 30 and had the pleasure of seeing a good game of baseball in which the Seals defeated the Oaks by a score of 4 to 2. The patrons were also treated to the spectacle of John O'Connell swinging wildly at a pitched ball delivered by Dan Haggerty at the opening of the game. John didn't connect. Senator Dan Murphy was the catcher.



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FRIDAY, AUGUST 7, 1931

## THE SAN JOSE STRIKE

The last week has seen an exemplification of what has been foretold by leaders in the labor movement for years. The strike of the cannery workers at San Jose has resulted in violent demonstrations, in which, as usual, the communists are alleged to be the leaders.

But what gave these communists a chance to become leaders in a legitimate movement to better the condition of workers receiving a starvation wage? Has there been effort on the part of the trade union organizations to hold out a helping hand to these oppressed people who are the victims of a conscienceless organization of employers? It is feared not. But the employers did not fail to organize, and their efforts have been rewarded with success, according to their own accounts.

The facts, gleaned from a perusal of the daily newspapers, seem to be that the fruit growers' organization evolved a plan to raise the price of their product by agreement, which included the elimination of surplus fruit. This involved also the uprooting of some 12,000 acres of orchards. They are now gloating over the fact that "peach prices are due for an increase," as a shortage is said to have developed. A naive statement is given out that the plan could not have been a success without the co-operation of the Cannery League.

And the cannery co-operated to the extent of cutting wages of cannery operators 10 cents an hour to 30 cents. They are setting aside large sums "for control operations," and presumably the already underpaid cannery workers must pay them.

The economic idiocy of pauperizing workers in order to build up profits of operators is unbelievable. People working for 30 cents an hour are not much of a business asset to any community. In view of the fact that the employment is seasonable it means that the number of cases for Community Chests and similar organizations to look after during the coming winter is to be increased and the relief funds of the county must be added to. In the long run the taxpayers and the charitably inclined must pay for the increased profits of the cannery and growers.

That there are men in all countries who get their living by war and by keeping up the quarrels of nations is as shocking as it is true; but when those who are concerned in the government of a country make it a study to sow discord and cultivate prejudices between nations it becomes the more unpardonable.—Thomas Paine.

## CO-OPERATION IS NECESSARY

"Bob" Hesketh, secretary-treasurer of the Hotel and Restaurant Employees and Beverage Dispensers' International Alliance, and editor of its official journal, "The Catering Industry Employee," is known, particularly on the Pacific Coast, as one of the most energetic and capable of labor officials. So that when he becomes impatient and censorious because of the official attitude of the American Federation of Labor he will be given a hearing. A year ago in his journal he said that "there appears to be too much self-satisfied, sail-along society and political policy and too little get in and drill for the worker amongst its official family" (speaking of the American Federation of Labor). In the July issue of his journal he reiterates this and much more. These strictures are called forth by what he terms "lip service" which his organization received from the Federation, when what was needed was a "little real action" in the fight made against the unfair hotels of Cleveland. Possibly "Bob" is a trifle more impatient than the situation warrants; possibly also the higher-ups do not realize the gravity of the situation which confronts the culinary crafts—and then again, possibly somebody is "passing the buck." Effective work was done, whether by the Federation officials or not, in turning away business from the unfair hotels. Several conventions scheduled for Cleveland were held elsewhere, and this must have hurt. It is to be hoped that the grave situation in Cleveland, where the culinary crafts have borne the brunt of the fight against the union-busters and the "yellow dog" contract, will call forth the closest co-operation between the American Federation and all its affiliated bodies. No good purpose will be served by dissension at this particular time.

## THE PROPAGANDA HABIT

During the war the embattled nations discarded truth and scattered sensational stories with reckless abandon in attempts to arouse the fighting spirit. No story was too improbable if it reflected upon the enemy, and the credulity of the people was put to a severe strain.

The lessons learned during the war as to the effectiveness of such propaganda have induced certain interests to again launch a campaign of "education"—by radio, through the films and in the public press wherever it can "get by."

Taking advantage of the desire on the part of the world to learn what is really going on in Russia, certain aristocratic ladies of the former Russian regime and of the English nobility have appeared in pictures and the press with stories of the alleged depravities of the Soviet government and the distressed condition of the people. A rather amusing incident occurred in a local second-run picture house during the showing of one of these pictures. A Russian lady whose writings have appeared in popular magazines appeared on the screen and gave what purported to be an account of the transportation of the "kulaks," or landowners, to northern Russia and Siberia because of their refusal to consent to the communist farming plan. Crude pictures of a population in the course of migration were shown, and the misery of the participants was apparent. Men, women and children were depicted amid snow and ice, evidently destitute and without shelter in the bleak winter weather. Suddenly there was a disturbance in the audience, and a raucous voice shouted, "It's a fake! Those are war pictures!" And the crudeness of the films seemed to bear out the assertion.

Recently on the radio the editor of a business magazine which has the backing of the National Chamber of Commerce entertained a listening world with an account of a conversation he had held with an American who had just returned from Russia. The object seemed to be to prejudice his hearers against a system which could not have

had any attraction to any of them, and which no doubt aroused curiosity as to what really was happening in Russia. Some of his statements were fantastic as well as unbelievable—for instance, that workingmen were rationed to "one pound of butter per year," one pair of boots per year, and so forth. Naturally, one was constrained to wonder why the workmen did not get out of the habit of eating butter and wearing boots. Butter was said to sell for \$5 to \$8 per pound in Russia and to be exported and sold in Poland for 25 cents per pound. Such stories are not yet so Munchausen-like as the war story to the effect that the Germans were making soap from the corpses of their war dead; but give them time.

Why all this propaganda? will be asked. Surely there is nothing in the situation in America to warrant a desire to emulate the Russians. But fear is what inspired the war propaganda; and it may be that the same sentiment is responsible for the present movement.

"On a Monday afternoon such as this we committed ourselves to a war which cost us the death or mutilation of 3,000,000 young men and expenditure of £13,000,000,000 (about \$65,000,000,000)," the London "Evening Standard" said on Monday last. Is it any wonder that the average British subject, and especially the worker, looks with hope and longing to the League of Nations or any other agency which shall make impossible another such world catastrophe? Recent experiences have convinced the world more strongly than ever that war settles nothing. World differences are finally settled around the conference table. Will the world learn to settle them before instead of after resort to arms?

Here is some sound logic from a valued correspondent of the Labor Clarion, Edward Berwick of Pacific Grove: "One of the reasons given by our Department of State for its failure to follow the advice of President Monroe, 'to recognize all de facto governments,' in the case of Russia is the fear that the Soviet consulates would be centers of propagandism subversive of our institutions. If we are all fully convinced that our institutions are 'the best ever,' why that fear? Surely it would require quite a large army of propagandists to appreciably affect the faith of Americans in America and our American government!"

The Japanese seem to have the advantage of their American brothers. When they inaugurate a strike it doesn't mean that one craft only is concerned. The whole force of a local Japanese newspaper recently quit work when one of their number was dismissed. The strikers included editorial as well as mechanical departments. That's solidarity for you.

Andrew Furuseth, president of the International Seamen's Union of America, presents in the "Seamen's Journal" for August a comprehensive report of his work at Washington in behalf of legislation governing maritime affairs, especially relating to the welfare of seamen. His account of how the King bill was sidetracked in the House of Representatives is especially interesting.

There should be general approval of the action of the Board of Education in deciding against a reduction in teachers' salaries during the current fiscal year. The municipality should not set an example of violating the generally accepted doctrine that wage and salary reductions tend to further aggravate the depression.

When we come to think in terms of production, instead of in terms of labor, we will cease our opposition to a shorter work-day and a shorter work week—Ethelbert Stewart.



## THE CHERRY TREE

With a little hatchet the truth about many things is hewed out—sometimes profoundly, sometimes flippantly, sometimes recklessly

Will Rogers always starts his pieces by saying, "All I know is what I see in the papers."

The man who reads his newspapers—and especially his weekly labor papers—carefully and thoughtfully, can know a great deal.

Our labor papers tell us that the average wage of union workers is more than twice as much as the average wage of non-union workers. That is as important in the history of the world as what happened to Napoleon when he met Wellington, and it ought to mean a Waterloo for non-unionism.

We see by the papers that the warden of Rhode Island's penitentiary has abolished prison censorship, believing that prisoners ought to see the newspapers without having holes cut in them. That, too, is news of progress—progress in human thought.

\* \* \*

But, speaking of prisons—which we speak of more under so-called prohibition than formerly—we read in the papers that there are twenty-six men in the death cells at Sing Sing, waiting for that last tragic march. The youngest is 18, the oldest 44!

The chief clerk at Sing Sing says that back of nearly every case is a young man's desire to show a girl a good time. "A young man's salary will not stand the strain," he sagely observes, adding that "only three out of ten that come to us this year have any kind of work."

We may say if we like that there is an indication of lacking moral fiber in these youths, but we must see also that society has created a condition, or tolerated a condition, that can turn a young chap into a murderer by closing to him the opportunity that normal cravings need for their satisfaction. In that way, or in some way, society has slipped in fulfilling its responsibilities toward youth and young chaps whose backbone is not as good as it might be take a terrible revenge.

Somehow, it is difficult to see where we quite "get even" with them or deter their successors merely by "bumping them off in a hot seat" after the damage has been done.

\* \* \*

In the papers there also is talk of fabricating houses "by machine." John W. Love, writing in the Cleveland "Plain Dealer," poses a pertinent question about that. What good will it do, Love inquires, to fabricate cheap houses "by machine" if people haven't the money to buy them?

The building trades workers, with their high skill, will be interested in the proposal to fabricate houses out of steel or something else. All of us are interested in knowing "what's the good" of any such project if wages aren't paid in good sums to those that would like to buy a good home and who can only buy out of savings from wages.

Love tells of a Cleveland where once in hard times urged the city to build ten thousand homes. Somebody stopped his chatter by asking him where he would have them built—on a raft?

It isn't of much use to make anything, or build anything, unless it is possible for people to buy and use. Merchants are learning that lesson as they worry about empty aisles. Back of them manufacturers are worrying because orders don't come from merchants who don't order because they aren't selling because too many wage earners are unemployed.

About this all-important matter you find the news in your labor newspaper. The daily newspaper, operated solely for profit and edited mostly by "bright young men" who feel bound to show how "smart" they are, don't tell us very much

## WIT AT RANDOM

Father—Doesn't that young man know how to say good-night? Daughter—I'll say he does!—Hudson "Star."

Teacher—Now, Johnny, what did Caesar exclaim when Brutus stabbed him? Johnny—Ouch!—"Pathfinder."

Wife—Dear, tomorrow is our tenth wedding anniversary. Shall I kill the turkey? Hubby—No, let him live. He didn't have anything to do with it.—Utah "Humbug."

"Matilda, won't you sing something for our guests?" "Oh, but, dear, it is so late; and besides they are beginning to go." "Yes, but not quickly enough."—"Illustrirte Zeitung."

Old Lady (to tramp)—Why don't you work? Hard work never killed any one. Tramp—You're wrong, lady. I lost both of my wives that way.—Bennington "Banner."

Her better-half arrived home at 2 a. m. and at 2:30, after she had finished her lecture, she said: "Well, what have you to say?" "I sure am glad that I'm not King Solomon," he mumbled, crawling into bed.—"Labor."

She—The doctor says your illness is all due to drink and that you must not take a drop more. He—Yes, I didn't know it was such a serious illness. I thought it would just mean an operation.—"Buen Humor" (Madrid).

At a campaign meeting the candidate had been talking for an hour and there were signs that his audience was becoming restive. Suddenly, a voice shouted: "Take off your hat!" The candidate looked surprised. "What hat?" he asked. "The one you're talking through."—Ex.

Ephraim—What you call it when a gal gits married three times—bigotry? Mose—Lawdy, boy, you suttlenly am a ignoramus. Why, when a gal gits married two times, dat am bigotry; when she tries it three times, dat am trigonometry.—"Labor."

A small boy was watching a bright glow in the sky with the utmost delight. "I am glad you admire the beauties of nature, my son," said an old gentleman. "Isn't it a lovely sunset?" "That's not a sunset," replied the boy, with a grin. "That's our school on fire."—"Labor."

"George," said old Angus McTavish to the ancient colored man of all work on the farm, "ye hae served us verra faithfully these thirty years, an' frae now on we will regard ye as a member of th' family. As such ye'll receive no more wages."—"Southern Cross."

A weary-looking fellow who had opened all the doors looking for work happened to see a huge police advertisement headed: "Murderer Wanted." "Well," he said, scratching his head, "it's better'n nothing, anyhow. I'm going in and ask for the job!"—"Garment Worker."

Mrs. Reed (with newspaper)—It says here that a woman in Omaha has just cremated her third husband. Miss Willing—Heigho! Isn't that just the way? Some of us can't get one and other women have husbands to burn.—Boston "Transcript."

"Rastus, I understand that you have become the father of twins." "Yassah; Ah done call the first one Adagio Allegro and Ah'm goin' to call the second one Encore." "Musical names, all right. But why do you call the second one Encore?" "Well, suh, you see, he wasn't on the program at all."—"Garment Worker."

about this matter that is more important today than anything else. Instead they regale us with the doings of Mutt and Jeff, and the wage earner that doesn't see through it can put himself in the place of the much battered little Jeff.

## QUERIES AND ANSWERS

Q.—How are the cleaners, dyers and pressers organized?

A.—Some are organized in unions directly affiliated with the American Federation of Labor and some in locals belonging to the Journeymen Tailors' Union of America and Laundry Workers' International Union.

Q.—What is the "Potters' Herald"?

A.—Official organ of the National Brotherhood of Operative Potters.

Q.—When was the first upholsterers' strike?

A.—In 1850, in New York City, when the first upholsterers' union of record conducted a successful general strike.

Q.—When was the birthday of Samuel Gompers?

A.—January 27. He was born in 1850.

Q.—What is the Neptune Association?

A.—An organization of licensed masters and mates of ocean and coastwise vessels.

Q.—How many international trade unions have branches in Canada?

A.—Eighty-four. Their Canadian branches number about 2,000, with a membership of upwards of 200,000.

### EAST BAY CARMEN AID UNEMPLOYED

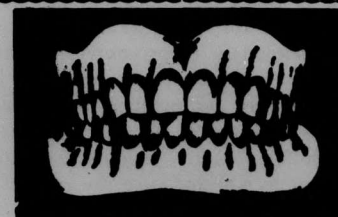
By a vote of nearly four to one the membership of Division No. 192, Street Carmen's Union, Oakland, has decided that each member shall take an extra day off each month to aid the unemployed. "It is a lot to ask of a body of men who are not making big wages, and it is a great pity that it becomes necessary to ask wage earners to take up the slack of their fellow workers, but there is no other way out under the present system," says Secretary Ben F. Browbeer.

W. D. Fennimore A. R. Fennimore  
L. H. Rewig



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## S. F. LABOR COUNCIL

### Synopsis of Minutes of July 31

Meeting called to order at 8:15 p. m. by President D. P. Haggerty.

**Roll Call of Officers**—All present.

**Reading Minutes**—Minutes of the previous meeting approved as printed in the Labor Clarion.

**Credentials**—From Retail Cleaners and Dyers No. 18182, Maurice Fisher; delegate seated.

**Communications**—Filed—Minutes of the Building Trades Council; from Janitors' Union No. 9, thanking the Council and the labor movement of San Francisco, and especially Secretary O'Connell, for moral support and assistance in the maintenance of the established wage scale for members employed by the city; from Chicago Federation of Labor, relative to its Labor Day celebration, and enclosing ten tickets for same; from Wyoming State Federation of Labor, reminding delegates and friends to buy Wyoming union-mined coal; from Stanislaus County Central Labor Council, a resume of the facts as to why Teamsters' Union of Modesto had to strike and is still on strike against the Modesto and Challenge Producers' Association; from F. A. Cochran, executive secretary to Governor Rolph, acknowledging receipt of Council's recommendation of D. C. Murphy as a member of the State Board of Education.

Referred to Secretary—From John Curry, secretary California Council No. 880, Knights of Columbus, relative to the "Columbia," official magazine of the Knights of Columbus; from Bakers' Union No. 24, regarding the conditions prevailing at the Phillips Baking Company.

Referred to Local Joint Executive Board of Culinary Workers—From Miscellaneous Employees' Union No. 110, relative to the 5 per cent reduction in wages.

**Resolution in Memoriam**—Was introduced by Secretary O'Connell, deeply mourning the loss of Brother James W. Mullen, and that we tender our sincere and heartfelt sympathy and condolence to his sorrowing mother and relatives in their late bereavement; and direct that this resolution be spread upon the minutes of the Council and a copy thereof transmitted to the family of the deceased. Moved that the resolution be adopted and that delegates stand in silence for one minute at the hour of adjournment in respect to the memory of our late Brother James W. Mullen; motion carried. The resolution reads:

#### IN MEMORIAM—JAMES W. MULLEN

"Whereas, James W. Mullen, editor of the Labor Clarion and State Labor Commissioner, has passed and gone to his reward, after a strenuous and useful life in the interests of labor and human advancement; and

"Whereas, Brother Mullen was a man of strength, character and ability, of indomitable will and desire to make his mark among his fellows, sacrificing much for what he deemed right, and striving courageously to promote the interests of trade unionism and education; he loved integrity, loyalty and ideality among men, and every one of his successes in life was won through hard work and the steadfastness that comes from the conquerable spirit to win and earn the respect of those with whom he worked; of all things most he wanted to be useful, reliable and accomplish something for the good of all; and his many posts of distinction and honor both in the local labor movement and in affairs of government testify to his capacity, his worth and widespread recognition of his sterling qualities; therefore be it

"Resolved, By the San Francisco Labor Council, in regular session assembled this 31st day of July, 1931, that we deeply mourn the loss of Brother James W. Mullen; that we appreciate his earnest endeavors in the cause of organized labor, his

steadfast zeal in behalf of education and civic betterment, and his courage and energy in the pursuit of labor's ideals and along the proven paths of progress toward their fulfillment; and further

"Resolved, That we tender our sincere and heartfelt sympathy and condolences to his sorrowing mother and relatives in their bereavement; and direct that this resolution be spread upon the minutes of the Council and a copy thereof transmitted to the family of the deceased."

**Executive Committee**—Reported in the matter of Laundry Workers against Feigenbaum's Laundry, 218 Ellis street, no one being present representing the laundry, the matter was laid over for the purpose of enabling the secretary to arrange for a conference. Committee appointed the following delegates to represent the Council and to attend the funeral of the late Brother James W. Mullen, editor of Labor Clarion: Brothers Hook, O'Connell, Daly, Knell, Noriega, Kidwell and Sister Hagan. Report concurred in.

**Reports of Unions**—Hatters: Requested a demand for their label when purchasing hats. Miscellaneous Employees: Bay City Grill unfair, and requested delegates not to patronize. Culinary Workers: Strike at Cleveland called off; members back at work; International feels it has gained a victory by such a settlement in eliminating the yellow dog contract. Grocery Clerks: Chain stores unfair; demand the Clerks' button when making purchases. Molders: Apex-Johnson washing machine is unfair; requested all not to patronize. Garment Workers: Business very slack; when purchasing garments demand the union label. Auto Mechanics: Requested all who own machines to have same repaired in union shops. Bakery Drivers: Will picnic at New Portola Park, August 9.

**Auditing Committee**—Reported favorably on all bills, and warrants were ordered drawn for same.

**Report of Law and Legislative Committee**—In re Mooney and Billings cases. Your committee has met twice and is awaiting copies of the Wickersham Committee Report on Criminal Procedure and proposed amendments of existing law in that behalf, wherefore committee will be unable to submit its report until about two weeks from date. Report received as progressive.

**Joint Labor Day Committee**—The minutes of the committee were read and from this date on delegates and committeemen are requested to attend the meetings of the general committee, so everything will be in apple-pie order on the day we celebrate. Report concurred in.

Brother Metcalf thanked all for their splendid support in electing him as delegate to the convention of the State Federation of Labor.

Brother Baker, Typographical No. 21, called attention to the laxity of the government in not going ahead with the construction of the hospital for veterans in this city.

**Nominations**—Nominations for a member of the Executive Committee to fill vacancy: Lee Phillips was placed in nomination; moved to close nominations until next Friday night; motion carried.

**Receipts, \$461.60; expenses, \$410.25.**

In accordance with a motion previously made, the Council adjourned by standing in silence for one minute out of respect to the memory of Brother James W. Mullen.

Council adjourned at 9:15 p. m.

Fraternally submitted.

JOHN A. O'CONNELL, Secretary.

P. S.—Members of affiliated unions are urged to demand the union label, card and button when making purchases, and to patronize the Municipal Railway whenever possible. J. O'C.

Old-age pensions, barbers' license bill, and legislation barring the sale of prison-made products from other states are scheduled for consideration at the annual convention of the Ohio State Federation of Labor, Columbus, Ohio, September 14.

## FOUGHT A GOOD FIGHT

If ever there was a gallant fight for trade union principles it was the fight of the Cooks and Waiters, just ended in Cleveland, says an I. L. N. S. writer.

For a year and eight days these trade unionists fought the fight of all organized labor. For a year and eight days they manned the picket line! A year and eight days is, if anyone cares to know, some stretch of picket duty—through the cold of winter and the inferno heat of summer. Cleveland can and does get both hot and cold. The strike didn't end in a complete victory—but whatever the terms of settlement say, it was victory just the same.

To hold the lines through more than a year of the worst depression we have known is an achievement of which to be proud. Let there be no fooling about that.

When prohibition, as it is facetiously called, came along there were those who said this union would pass out. But see what happened. Instead of passing out it grew immensely stronger and staged the biggest fight of the year just passed.

Let honor be done these union men and women of Cleveland—the Cooks and Waiters, and with them the Musicians and Engineers who went out and stayed out for a principle. The spectacle is one to cheer all workers and to show employers there is a willingness to fight for justice and principle. There is militancy!

### BUILDING TRADES COUNCIL

Credentials for George Winrich, Karl Raaka, Martin Alexander and J. C. Sheridan, from Upholsterers, Carpet and Linoleum Mechanics, Local No. 1, were received at the regular weekly meeting of the San Francisco Building Trades Council on July 23. The delegates were seated.

The request of Elevator Constructors' Union, Local No. 8, to have several individuals and firms placed on the unfair list was granted upon concurrence in the report of the advisory committee.

A motion that Secretary Thomas Doyle of the Council be indorsed for the position of state labor commissioner was unanimously adopted.

There being no opposition to the nominees for officers of the Council, as printed in last week's Labor Clarion, the secretary was instructed to cast the vote of the Council for the nominees and they were declared elected.

An early adjournment was taken to allow the delegates to attend the celebration of "Labor Night" at the Seals' Stadium, and witness the baseball game between the Seals and the Oaks.

### LONG SERVICE IN COUNCIL

The "Chronicle's" daily "Twenty-five Years Ago" column on July 30 included the following: "The San Francisco Labor Council elected W. R. Haggerty president, A. J. Gallagher vice-president, W. P. McCabe recording secretary, Paul Scharrenberg recording secretary, D. McLennan treasurer and P. O'Brien sergeant-at-arms." An interesting fact is that Brother Pat O'Brien has filled the position of sergeant-at-arms continuously since that time. He recalls having missed but one meeting in the quarter of a century.

### LAUNDRY WORKERS' DELEGATES

Laundry Workers' Union No. 26 held a special election on Monday last to select delegates to the annual convention of the California State Federation of Labor, to be held at Santa Barbara in September. A great deal of interest was manifested, and the balloting resulted in the election of the following: Anna Brown, Charles Keegan, Charles Child, John O'Keefe, Margie Lydon and Roy Burt.



## APPRECIATION

Mr. Derry, Labor Clarion,  
San Francisco, California.

Dear Sir: May we, the family of the late James W. Mullen, use the Labor Clarion as a medium for expressing our deep appreciation to his many friends, co-workers, and the respective organizations of which he was a member, for their kind expressions of esteem and sympathy?

May we also thank in a special manner the Labor Council for the beautiful memorial forwarded to us, and you, for your co-operation with him in the past six months and the splendid tribute offered by you in the July 31 edition?

Sincerely,  
MRS. JOANNA MULLEN  
AND FAMILY.

August 3, 1931.

## SAN DIEGO'S TRIBUTE

At the last meeting of the San Diego County Federated Trades and Labor Council the following resolutions were adopted:

"Whereas, The Messenger of Death has taken another name from the membership roll of organized labor, and State Labor Commissioner James W. Mullen has answered the last call; and

"Whereas, In the death of Brother Mullen the state has lost a good officer and the labor movement a tried and true member and staunch friend; therefore be it

"Resolved, That the San Diego County Federated Trades and Labor Council expresses its sorrow over our loss and extends its heartfelt sympathy to the family and relatives of our deceased brother; and be it further

"Resolved, That copies of this resolution be sent to the bereaved family; Governor James Rolph, Jr.; the San Diego "Labor Leader" and San Francisco Labor Clarion for publication; and a copy spread on the minutes of this council."

## APPRECIATION FOR SYMPATHY

Cards expressing gratitude for "sympathy expressed in the beautiful flowers sent at the time of our late bereavement" have been sent by Mrs. Joanna Mullen and family to all of the donors whose addresses were available. Appreciation also is extended to Mr. and Mrs. Bogel and Mr. and Mrs. Alex Grinberg, whose addresses were not obtainable.

## A CORRECTION

Will J. French calls attention to an error in dates appearing in the brief sketch of the career of the late James W. Mullen in last week's Labor Clarion. The year 1909 is given as the time when Mr. Mullen took charge of the Labor Clarion. Mr. Mullen took charge on September 1, 1911, succeeding Mr. French.

## EXTENSION OF VETERAN INSURANCE

The American Legion will sponsor an amendment to the war risk insurance act at the next session of Congress to provide for an extension of the convertible period of the government five-year term insurance policy, according to James K. Fisk, state adjutant of the Legion.

## MAKING SLOW PROGRESS

Joe Bois, an enthusiastic delegate to the Trades Union Promotional League, who was dangerously injured at Howard and Sixteenth streets some days ago by being struck by an automobile, is reported to be making slow progress toward recovery. He is suffering from a fractured skull.

## ANTI-VOLSTEAD FIGHT

Tremendous interest has been aroused by the national organizing campaign of Labor's National Committee for Modification of the Volstead Act, Secretary-Treasurer I. M. Ornburn announced at Washington this week.

"We are immensely encouraged by results thus far," said Secretary Ornburn. "Membership applications are coming in rapidly and plans now maturing will bring them even faster. The great problem is to get organizers to those who want to join our fight.

"We have a number of plans under consideration and within a few days I expect we shall have important announcements to make. One thing is sure: Labor is determined to win this battle for several reasons. One reason—the prime reason—is the restoration of freedom destroyed by Volsteadism. Another is the vast amount of employment involved. It is amazing that at a time when employment is so sadly needed our country should remain indifferent to this vast volume of employment which could be made available almost overnight."

## DEATHS IN UNION RANKS

The following members of local unions passed away during the week just closed: Sophie Krause, member of Waitresses' Union No. 48; Henry Harcke, Musicians' Union No. 6; John H. Coleman, International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 64; Jake Bauer, Carpenters' Union No. 483; Frank M. Fagundes, Barbers' Union No. 148; Hiley J. Ellis, Carpet Mechanics' Union No. 1; William I. Isted, Web Pressmen's Union No. 4; James C. Wood, Teamsters' Union No. 85.

## GENERAL LABOR DAY COMMITTEE

On Saturday evening at 8:15 the General Labor Day Committee will meet at the Labor Temple to discuss plans for the celebration of labor's holiday on September 7. Much progress has been made, but there is a great deal yet to be accomplished. Members of the committee, as well as all delegates to both the San Francisco Labor Council and the San Francisco Building Trades Council, are urged to be present.

## WE DON'T PATRONIZE LIST

The concerns named below are on the "We Don't Patronize List" of the San Francisco Labor Council. Members of Labor Unions and sympathizers are requested to cut this out and post it.

American Tobacco Company.  
Apex-Johnson Washing Machine Co.  
Austin's Shoe Stores.  
Block, J., Butcher, 1351 Taraval.  
Bella Roma Cigar Co.  
Co-Op Manufacturing Company.  
Clinton Cafeterias.  
Ernest J. Sultan Mfg. Co.  
E. Goss & Co., Cigar Mfg., 113 Front.  
Foster's Lunches.  
Goldstone Bros., manufacturers of Dreadnaught and Bodyguard Overalls.  
Great Western Tea Company, 2388 Mission.  
"Grizzly Bear," organ of N. S. G. W.  
Hollywood Dry Corporation and its Products.  
Koffee Kup, 5424 Geary.  
Kress, S. H., Stores.  
Manning's, Inc., Coffee and Sandwich Shops.  
Market Street R. R.  
Mann Manufacturing Company, Berkeley.  
Milk Producers' Assn. of Central California.  
Producers of "Modesto" and "Challenge" Butter.  
National Biscuit Co., Chicago, products.  
Purity Chain Stores.  
Steinberg's Shoe Store, 2650 Mission.  
Steinberg's Shoe Store, 1600 Fillmore.  
The Mutual Stores Co.  
Torino Bakery, 2823 Twenty-third.  
Traung Label & Litho Co.  
Union Furniture Co., 2075 Mission.  
All Barber Shops open on Sunday are unfair.

## BAKERY DRIVERS' PICNIC

The members and friends of the Bakery Wagon Drivers' Union are looking forward to a delightful time at New Portola Park on Sunday, August 9, when they will enjoy their annual picnic.

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William W. Hansen - Manager  
Dan F. McLaughlin - President  
Geo. J. Asmussen - Secretary

## United Undertakers

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Allied Printing Trades Council on your  
Printing, it is not a Union Concern.

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Shoes

UNION STORE FOR MEN UNION  
NOW IN STOCK SHOES

## R. A. French

2623 MISSION STREET, at 22nd



**SIX-DAY WEEK FOR CAR MEN**

Following several weeks of negotiation, in which W. D. Mahon of Detroit, president of the Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railways of America, took a leading part, new wage scales for the employees of the Chicago surface lines, elevated railways and North Shore inter-urban system have been ratified by elections held by the respective local unions.

Under the new agreements, which will expire in June, 1932, the union gains the seven and one-half hour basic day and the six-day week. Over-time at price and a half will begin after eight and a half hours, instead of after eight hours, as formerly. The seven-day week becomes a thing of the past.

L. D. Bland, international treasurer of the street railway organization, said: "We have held our wage rates and thus maintained our buying power. We have done this in the face of the seriousness of the depression. We have taken no backward step. We have adhered to trade union principles and to progressive tendencies in industry throughout the nation, and our members are to be congratulated on their good judgment and wise decision."

**PHILHARMONIC CONCERT**

The efforts of the Musicians' Union to aid unemployed members will be expressed in a concert to be given at the Civic Auditorium on the evening of August 21, when the San Francisco Philharmonic Orchestra will be heard. The concert has the indorsement of the Labor Council, and should receive support from all classes of citizens who love good music, but especially organized labor and its friends. Besides the orchestra, composed of some of San Francisco's foremost musicians, there will be solos by three outstanding artists. The admission will be 50 cents.

**NEW LAWS EFFECTIVE AUGUST 14**

The new laws prohibiting employment of aliens and non-residents on public works and also providing for the prevailing wage on public projects will go into effect August 14. Walter Garrison, director of public works, states that \$17,500,000 in highway work is under way in California and that \$6,000,000 worth of road contracts will be awarded in the next three months. It is estimated that the highway work will keep 9000 men employed.

**REFERENDUM PETITIONS FILED**

Petitions signed by 45,358 voters in San Francisco and 42,000 in Alameda County for the placing on the ballot of a referendum proposition by which the voters at the coming general election may express themselves on the Congressional and legislative redistricting measures have been filed. It is generally believed that the necessary number of signatures has been secured, in which event Governor Rolph may call a special election.

**CELEBRITIES FOR LEGION CONVENTION**

The greatest array of celebrities to ever attend a convention of the American Legion will be present at the thirteenth annual meeting of the California Department of the organization to be held at Long Beach for three days beginning August 31, according to H. W. Funke, chairman of the general convention committee.

**RESULT OF HIGH TAXES**

High state taxes on cigarettes, amounting in some cases to 20 per cent, have brought about the production of a cigarette roller which sells for less than a dollar and produces from 30 to 40 cigarettes with 10 cents worth of tobacco. Cigarette papers and tin box to carry the cigarettes are included in the outfit.

**PUT BLAME WHERE IT BELONGS**

Perhaps the best friends Wall Street has today are those who point to the national capital and say, "Let the politicians do something." To throw upon political life the blame for industrial and financial piracy and short-coming is to draw a red herring across the trail, says an American Federation of Labor news letter.

This depression is an industrial depression. The economic world has gone out of gear. Put the blame where it belongs. Why should not industrial overlords, with their excess profits and fabulous reserves securely tucked away, be happy if politicians can be blamed? And why should they not be happy if all eyes can be turned toward politicians for a cure? Keep the blame pinned where it belongs and bring forth the cure where the blame lies. The proposal offered to the nation by Matthew Woll does that.

When the economic world accepts its own responsibility and sets out to readjust itself for permanent prosperity, then we shall be on the high road. And even those whose sole interest is in profit will be better off, for, if we may venture to state a sound but fearsome truth, this economic order will be assured a permanence which it may not have unless it can find its way to an existence based upon justice.

**UNION HATTERS BENEFIT**

Non-union wage and working conditions in the Stetson and Schoble hat factories in Philadelphia have at last resulted in an exodus from the city of the best mechanics the city has had.

For years the hatters have complained about inadequate wages under so-called open shop conditions, though some of the hats turned out in Philadelphia have been high amongst the costly products of the industry.

Several union hat factories recently opened in Newark, N. J., have appealed to the United Hatters' Local Union to recruit about one hundred good hatters, offering union wages, union conditions and permanent employment. This practically depleted the non-union factories of Philadelphia of their best men.

Philadelphia hat makers have an enviable reputation for their skill and workmanship, and this chance of leaving intolerable conditions for a betterment of their living standard was indeed welcome to them, though some had to leave their homes which they were trying to pay for.

**DESTITUTION IS INCREASING**

Increasing destitution, laying a heavy burden on the welfare and relief organizations of San Francisco, is indicated in the reports of Community Chest agencies for the past month, according to G. B. Peterson, chairman of the relief council which co-ordinates the problems and policies of organizations aiding needy families and individuals. Comparing reports for this year with those of the two preceding years, Peterson emphasizes the fact that 4663 families were given relief during June, 1931, as against 2914 families needing help in June, 1930, and 2305 families helped in June, 1929. Peterson points out the seriousness of the situation confronting welfare agencies. As savings are exhausted and morale weakened by prolonged periods of unemployment families and single persons who never before asked for aid are forced to rely on public or private charity for food, shelter and clothing.

**CAMPAIGN ON "ROAD HOG" DANGERS**

"Keep to the right or get in wrong." This slogan has been adopted by the California Committee on Public Safety for use in connection with its August campaign, which is aimed at the practice commonly termed as "hogging the road."

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